

# What is Neighborhood Watch?

C O M M U N I T Y   R E L A T I O N S   U N I T



## Neighborhood Watch is.....

a crime prevention program that enlists the active participation of residents in cooperation with law enforcement to reduce crime, solve problems, and improve the quality of life in your area. In it you will get to know and work with your neighbors, and learn how to:

- Recognize and report crimes and suspicious activities,
- Protect yourself, your family, and your property,
- Protect your neighbor's family and property, and
- Identify crime and disorder problems in your area while working with Chula Vista Police personnel on strategies and techniques to deter crime.

### How to Start and Maintain a Neighborhood Watch Program

The following steps explain how to get a Neighborhood Watch program started and maintained in your area:

**Talk to your neighbors.** See if there's interest in forming a Neighborhood Watch group in your area. Tell your neighbors about the benefits of a program and the problems to be addressed. Ask about convenient times and places for the first meeting. Be sure to mention that Neighborhood Watch does not require frequent meetings or personal risks, and that Chula Vista Police Personnel will be there to present information and answer questions.

### Planning the first meeting.

Select a date, time, and place for the first meeting and coordinate with the Community Relations Unit at 619 691-5187.

Meetings are usually held at a home, school, church, or community center. Distribute flyers a few days before the meeting. We will have a sign in sheet, which includes a space for phone numbers, addresses, & email. You will then utilize that sign in sheet to communicate with members of the watch group. We will bring fliers on a variety of crime prevention and safety topics.

**Hold meetings twice a year or at least annually to sustain the watch group.**



Chula Vista Police Department  
Community Relations Unit